MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes; but not at one stretch. They are allowed half an hour's leisure for every six hours and are also granted passes for going out if they so desire and if their needs are urgent. Further, there is also the practice of arranging overtime work by shifts which permits the employees to leave one after the other when their portion of the job is finished.

(*b*) 43 days for work in connection with the Legislative Council and the printing of the *Civil List*, the *Administration Report*, the *Assembly Proceedings*, *Statistical Volumes*, *Gazette Extraordinary*, etc.

(*c*) No extra remuneration other than overtime allowance has been paid for such work.

(*d*) The member is referred to Sections 23, 24 and 28 of the Factories Regulation, V of 1089, which fix a maximum of 7 hours' work for a child and of 10 hours for a woman, but do not prescribe any maximum for a man except in the case of textile factories where a maximum of 12 hours per diem is fixed.

Expenditure from Municipal Funds.

132. **MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI** (*Tovala*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the expenditure met by the Nagercoil Municipal Council in C. C. No. 135 of 1099 in the Additional District Magistrate's Court at Padmanabhapuram;

(*b*) whether the Chairman consulted the Council before he apologised to the complainant;

(*c*) whether more than one vakil was engaged in the said case, and, if so, their names and respective remuneration;

(*d*) whether Mr. V. S. Ramaswami issued a notice of suit to the Chairman claiming his remuneration, and, if so, how the matter was disposed of;

(*e*) the expenditure hitherto incurred in connection with the case O. S. No. 96 of 1099 in the District Court of Nagercoil, as also the expenditure in the case O. S. No. 28 of 1102, in the above court; and

(*f*) whether Mr. Arunachalam, the brother of the Chairman and a Councillor, was engaged in O. S. No. 28 of 1102?

(2) What was the total expenditure met from the Municipal funds over the well at Ozhukinasseri? Was there any protest from the citizens against this expenditure? How far is this well from the Pazhayar river as also from the house of the Headmaster-Councillor? Is it being made use of for drinking purposes?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Government have no information and they do not see any necessity to call for the same.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Am I to understand that there was no representation from the members concerned to the Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): May I know with reference to which part of this question is this supplementary question raised?

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MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the Government satisfied with the state of affairs in the matter of expenditure in the Nagercoil Municipality?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): In view of the answer given, it does not seem to arise, Sir.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Was there any reference from the members concerned to the Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): In view of the answer, this question does not arise.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): The answer given is that the Government have no information. I want to know if there was any representation to the Government.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): There is also the further part of the answer which says that the Government do not find the necessity to call for information.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I want to know whether there was not any representation from the members concerned.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): With reference to which part of the question is this supplementary question raised?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): The only answer given is that the Government have no information and that they cannot see the necessity to call for the same. I ask if there was any representation to the Government from the Municipal Council members.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): If the member will give further particulars in regard to the date of the representation and the name of the member who made the representation, the matter will be verified.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Were the Government aware that the case was compromised behind the back of the Council?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That does not arise since the answer says that Government have no information.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I want to know why the information was not called for.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Government consider that the Municipal bodies being self-governing bodies, they need not interfere with the working of those bodies.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): If the working is not satisfactory, then that question will have to be considered. Am I to understand that the Municipality is a self-govering institution and that therefore the public have no right to call for information concerning the affairs of the Municipality?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Any member of the Municipal Council can interpellate the Council and get the information. These are matters of internal administration about which it is open to the members of the Municipal Council to call for information.

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MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Does that take away the right of the Legislative Council members to call for information?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member may interpellate the Government and the answer has been furnished that the Government do not find any necessity to call for the information.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Was there any recommendation to the Government by the Municipality to disburse funds on the items of expenditure referred to in this question? I want to know whether any recommendation was made by the Municipal Council with regard to the remuneration to be given to the vakil engaged by the Council on the notice of suit issued by Mr. V. S. Ramaswami.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That is a new question. That information has not been obtained. If the member will give particulars regarding the matter, it will be ascertained.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Should they not get the sanction of Government before they spend the municipal funds?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I want to know whether such a recommendation was made in this case.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the Government aware that there is a Section in the Municipal Regulation to the effect that the members of the Council cannot take up briefs in cases in which the Council is involved?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I note the information.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are not the Government expected to enforce the Sections of the Municipal Regulation?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the Government aware that a particular well at Ozhukinasseri was dug at the expense of the Council?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) I must call for the information to give an answer.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Will the Government call for information with reference to part (*a*) of the question?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Will the member kindly repeat the question specifically?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): The question is:

What was the total expenditure met from the municipal funds over the well at Ozhukinasseri? Was there any protest from the citizens against this expenditure? How far is this well from the Pazhayar river as also from the house of the Headmaster Councillor? Is it being made use of for drinking purposes?

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Am I then to understand that the Municipal Council has spent the municipal funds on certain items of expenditure without any benefit whatsoever to the public at large? It is to elicit an answer with regard to that that the question was put.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): If the member is only repeating part (2) of the question, then the answer is already given there.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the Government will call for the information?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Government have already answered that.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the Government aware that there was a protest against the digging of this well, which was anticipated, against the wishes of the citizens of Nagercoil?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I am not able to answer him unless the member gives particulars of the information to be called for.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Was there not any petition to the Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): If the member will state particulars about the petition, it will be enquired into.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): That is clear from the question. I want to know whether there was any petition of protest sent to the Government.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That will be ascertained.

Interpellations and Resolutions from Mr. Kumaraswami Pillai, Member, Municipal Council, Nagercoil.

134. **MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI** (*Tovala*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of resolutions, with their respective dates of despatch and the dates on which they were placed before the Council, sent by member Mr. C. V. Kumaraswami Pillai, ever since the new Municipal Council began; and

(*b*) the number of his interpellations with the respective dates of their receipt in the office and those of their answers in the Council?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Government have no information.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know why the Government did not call for the information?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The answer that I gave to question No. 132 applies to this also.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know what the members have got to do if their resolutions and interpellations are not placed before the Municipal Council?

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